

SECOND DAY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1997

PROCEEDINGS

The Senate met at 11:00 a.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the President.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Armbrister, Barrientos, Bivins, Brown, Cain, Carona, Duncan, Ellis, Fraser, Gallegos, Galloway, Harris, Haywood, Lindsay, Lucio, Luna, Madla, Moncrief, Nelson, Nixon, Patterson, Ratliff, Shapiro, Shapleigh, Sibley, Truan, Wentworth, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

To be elected: District 5.

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

Senate Doorkeeper Don Long offered the invocation as follows:

Our heavenly Father, You made humankind in Your own likeness, and You love what You have made. Give to these Senators whom You have placed in the seats of honor and power a sense of awe and humility before You as their creator and Lord. Help them to see the unity of the human family and to promote it. Enable them to feel the suffering of humankind in the State of Texas and to seek to alleviate it. Encourage them to pursue the truth of human history and to learn from it. Let Your grace and wisdom descend on them in abundance this day. May each Senator seek Your wisdom in making sound judgments that will produce wise decisions and the courage to bring them to fruition. And God bless Texas. This we ask in the name of "The Lord my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower." (Psalms 18:2) Amen.

On motion of Senator Truan and by unanimous consent, the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was dispensed with and the Journal was approved.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE RESOLUTION 2

On motion of Senator Moncrief and by unanimous consent, Senator Zaffirini will be shown as Co-author of **SR 2**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE RESOLUTION 5

On motion of Senator Ellis and by unanimous consent, Senator Truan will be shown as Co-author of **SR 5**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 55

On motion of Senator Zaffirini and by unanimous consent, Senator Moncrief will be shown as Co-author of **SB 55**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 162

On motion of Senator Barrientos and by unanimous consent, Senator Ellis will be shown as Co-author of **SB 162**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 173

On motion of Senator Patterson and by unanimous consent, Senator Armbrister will be shown as Co-author of **SB 173**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 12

On motion of Senator Patterson and by unanimous consent, Senator Armbrister will be shown as Co-author of **SJR 12**.

SENATE BILLS AND RESOLUTION ON FIRST READING

The following bills and resolution were introduced, read first time, and referred to the committees indicated:

SB 172 by Zaffirini, West, Gallegos

Relating to coverage for childhood immunizations under certain health benefit plans.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 173 by Patterson, Armbrister, Ellis

Relating to a voluntary, consensual encumbrance on homestead property for the purpose of an equity loan.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 174 by Brown

Relating to a fee collected by a prosecutor for collecting and processing a dishonored or forged check or similar sight order.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 175 by Barrientos

Relating to resolution of certain contract claims against the state.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 176 by Barrientos

Relating to intensive reading instruction for certain public school students.

To Committee on Education.

SB 177 by Barrientos, Ellis, Gallegos

Relating to uniform admission and reporting procedures for institutions of higher education.

To Committee on Education.

SB 178 by Barrientos

Relating to exempting certain educational aides from tuition and fees charged by institutions of higher education.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 179 by Barrientos, Ellis

Relating to the indemnification of certain employees of certain institutions of higher education for admissions activities.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 180 by Ellis, Barrientos, Lucio, West, Zaffirini

Relating to providing tuition and fee scholarships funded from state lottery revenue and other sources to students at institutions of higher education who meet certain academic, citizenship, and other requirements.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 181 by Shapiro

Relating to expediting certain suits to terminate parental rights and the conservatorship of a child by the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 182 by Shapiro

Relating to costs on conviction to fund courthouse and municipal court building security.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 183 by Shapiro

Relating to training programs for youth sports coaches.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 184 by Shapiro

Relating to a driver's license that authorizes the operation of a motorcycle.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 185 by Shapiro

Relating to the prosecution of certain sexual assaults committed against children.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 186 by Madla

Relating to the allocation of certain money in the law enforcement officer standards and education account.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 187 by Madla

Relating to the allocation of money in the law enforcement officer standards and education account to local law enforcement agencies.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 188 by Madla

Relating to creating an offense for possession of certain information by an inmate of the institutional division or the state jail division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 189 by Haywood

Relating to the civil liability of certain chambers of commerce.

To Committee on Economic Development.

SB 190 by Zaffirini, Moncrief, Barrientos, Ellis, West, Shapiro, Gallegos, Nelson

Relating to the regulation of nursing homes and similar facilities; providing penalties.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 191 by Moncrief

Relating to the recommendations of certain local officials regarding the issuance of licenses to sell beer at retail.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 192 by Barrientos

Relating to participation in, contributions to, and benefits and administration of retirement systems for firefighters in certain municipalities.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 193 by Nelson

Relating to open-enrollment charter schools.

To Committee on Education.

SB 194 by Nelson

Relating to the tax appraisal of certain land owned or formerly owned by disabled veterans and designated for agricultural use.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 196 by Zaffirini

Relating to the ability of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to charge a fee for the certification of certain education programs for repeat offenders.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 197 by Zaffirini, West

Relating to the regulation of alcohol awareness courses by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 198 by Zaffirini

Relating to programs for public school students with autism or pervasive development disorder.

To Committee on Education.

SB 199 by Zaffirini

Relating to the administration of park and recreation districts in certain counties.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 200 by Ellis

Relating to incentives for the location of a supermarket in an enterprise zone.

To Committee on Economic Development.

SCR 4 by Whitmire

Granting the Texas DeMolay Association permission to use the senate and house chambers on February 15 and 16, 1997, and February 21 and 22, 1998, for its legislative seminar.

To Committee on Administration.

CAPITOL PHYSICIAN

Senator Armbrister was recognized and presented Dr. David L. Schneider of San Marcos as the "Doctor for the Day."

The Senate welcomed Dr. Schneider and thanked him for his participation in the "Capitol Physician" program sponsored by the Texas Academy of Family Physicians.

GUEST PRESENTED

The President introduced to the Senate Bill Sims, former Member of the Texas Senate.

The Senate welcomed Senator Sims.

(Senator Brown in Chair)

PRESENTATION

Senator Truan was recognized and, joined by Senator Brown, presented Senator Sims with an album of memoirs on behalf of the Senate for his 14 years of service as a Senator.

(President in Chair)

PROCLAMATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following Proclamations from the Governor were read and were filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

**PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
41-2671**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 75TH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR
SESSION:**

Pursuant to Article III, Section 5, of the Texas Constitution, I, George W. Bush, Governor of the State of Texas, submit the following emergency matter for immediate consideration by the 75th legislature, now convened:

Relating to the eligibility for release on mandatory supervision of certain inmates of the institutional division of the Department of Criminal Justice.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at my office in the City of Austin, on this the 15th day of January, 1997.

/s/George W. Bush
Governor of Texas

Attest:

/s/Antonio O. Garza, Jr.
Secretary of State

P R O C L A M A T I O N
BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
41-2672

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 75TH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR
SESSION:

Pursuant to Article III, Section 5, of the Texas Constitution,
I, George W. Bush, Governor of the State of Texas, submit the following
emergency matter for immediate consideration by the 75th legislature,
now convened:

Relating to the criminal offense known as "Stalking."

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially
and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at my office in the
City of Austin, on this the 15th day of January, 1997.

/s/George W. Bush
Governor of Texas

Attest:

/s/Antonio O. Garza, Jr.
Secretary of State

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 5

Senator Truan offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 17, Article III, Texas Constitution, provides that
neither house of the legislature may adjourn for more than three days without
the consent of the other house; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the 75th Legislature, That each house grant the other
permission to adjourn for more than three days during the period beginning
on January 15, 1997, and ending on January 21, 1997.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Truan and by unanimous consent, the resolution
was considered immediately and was adopted by a viva voce vote.

SENATE RESOLUTION 2

Senator Moncrief offered the following resolution:

SR 2, Granting permission to Partners in Policymaking for the use
of the Senate Chamber on January 25 and February 8, 1997, and
January 17 and February 7, 1998.

MONCRIEF
ZAFFIRINI

The resolution was read and was adopted by a viva voce vote.

SENATE RESOLUTION 9

Senator Truan offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pride in recognizing the members of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly who are visiting the United States as part of a two-week program sponsored by the United States Information Agency Office of International Visitors; and

WHEREAS, The goal of the United States Information Agency Single-Country Project for Costa Rica is to afford an opportunity for members of the Legislative Assembly to learn how grassroots organizations interact with federal, state, and local governments and to observe the lobbying process from the perspective of both the Congress or state legislature and the public interest groups; and

WHEREAS, While in Austin and San Antonio, the visiting members of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly, Carlos Fernandez Alvarado, Carmen Valverde Acosta, Mario Carazo Zeledon, and Rolando Gonzalez Ulloa, are observing such grassroots democratic processes as voter registration, citizen lobbying, and political party formation; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Fernandez is deputy head of the Social Christian Unity Party and a longtime advocate of community participation in government in Limon; he is active in housing, education, health, crime, and environmental issues and has supported legislation in those areas; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Fernandez is a member of the Costa Rican Bar Association and uses his legal skills to develop legislation on the participation of citizens in the political and social process; he focuses on increasing the access to politics for citizens groups and helping those groups to gain effectiveness on the community level; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Valverde Acosta is vice-president of the Legislative Assembly and formerly served on the Faculty of Law at the University of Costa Rica; her wide array of interests include agricultural and law enforcement issues, foreign policy issues, women and family legislation, electoral reforms, housing, health, and education; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Valverde is a longtime human rights advocate and is active in promoting the role of community leaders in the political decision-making process on the local level; her publications include *Legislative Techniques Handbook* and *The Language of the Law*; and

WHEREAS, Mario Carazo Zeledon, a professor of Private Law at the University of Costa Rica from 1972 to 1994, has been very active as a member of the Legislative Assembly; he is interested in control of public sector expenditures, judicial issues, and pursuing environmental and financial reforms; and

WHEREAS, As a part of the Electoral Commission, Deputy Carazo has pushed reforms on the financing of political parties' activities and has pursued electoral reforms to make the selection of candidates more democratic; representing small communities in the metropolitan San Jose area, he has worked diligently to help residents increase their ability to influence the governmental policies that affect them and to develop local decision-making mechanisms; and

WHEREAS, Alternate general secretary of the Latin American Parliament from 1995 to 1997 and general secretary of the National Liberation Party until the year 2000, Rolando Gonzalez Ulloa has been a strong political leader who has promoted important legislation to further social, educational, and electoral reforms; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Gonzalez became involved in politics as a young man; he is very active in the promotion of young leaders and encourages democratic participation by his community; as a member of the Electoral Commission, he advocates substantial electoral reforms and is interested in regulating the financing of political parties; and

WHEREAS, It is an honor to have members of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly in our country and it is hoped that this two-week program will provide the distinguished visitors with a deeper insight into grassroots democracy in the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 75th Legislature, hereby express hospitality and a warm welcome to the members of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly and express appreciation to each of them for their participation in the United States Information Agency Single-Country Project; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

The resolution was read.

(Senator Brown in Chair)

On motion of Senator Lindsay and by unanimous consent, the names of the Lieutenant Governor and Senators were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

On motion of Senator Truan, the resolution was adopted by a viva voce vote.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Truan was then recognized and introduced to the Senate the following delegates of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly: Carlos Fernandez Alvarado, Member, Legislative Assembly (1994-1998) and Deputy Head of the Social Christian Unity Party (1996-1997); Carmen Valverde Acosta, Member, Legislative Assembly (1994-1998) and former Vice President of the Legislative Assembly (1995-1996); Mario Carazo Zeledon, Member, Legislative Assembly (1994-1998); and Rolando Gonzalez Ulloa, Member, Legislative Assembly (1994-1998), Alternate General Secretary, Latin American Parliament (1995-1997), and General Secretary, National Liberation Party (1996-2000).

The Senate welcomed its guests.

GUEST PRESENTED

Senator Ellis was recognized and introduced to the Senate United States Representative Sheila Jackson Lee of Houston.

The Senate welcomed Congresswoman Lee.

SENATE RESOLUTION 8

Senator Truan offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, It is a distinct honor and a great pleasure for the Senate of the State of Texas to recognize its most esteemed officer, Secretary of the Senate Betty King; and

WHEREAS, Elected to her responsible position in 1977, Mrs. King is one of the most respected officials in state government; before becoming Secretary, Mrs. King had served as administrative assistant to two state senators and as the Senate Journal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, The second generation in her family to work in the statehouse, Mrs. King began working in the Capitol shortly after coming to Austin to attend The University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS, Renowned for her diplomacy and understanding of the political process, this noteworthy lady was honored by the members of the Texas Senate last year for her 47 years of outstanding service in the Texas Capitol; and

WHEREAS, During the legislative session, her responsibilities as Secretary are onerous and exacting; besides handling her duties as chief administrative officer for the Senate, Mrs. King is a highly sought after speaker at civic and charitable functions; and

WHEREAS, Charming and skillfully apolitical, Mrs. King has always been most helpful to the senators and their staffs; she is ready to assist any of her employees when they face a problem and has earned the loyalty of each member of her staff; and

WHEREAS, Her office on the second floor of the Capitol is always busy dispensing information about the Senate; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of countless awards, Mrs. King has contributed her time to many public service organizations; she is past staff chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures and past president of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries; she received the Outstanding Achievement Award for Government Service from the Austin Young Women's Christian Association and was selected as one of seven Outstanding Women in Texas Government in 1988; and

WHEREAS, One who truly believes in community service, she is President-elect of the Austin Lyric Opera and the Docents of the Governor's Mansion, vice president of the Texas affiliate of the American Heart Association and the Austin Symphony League, on the Advisory Board of United Action for the Elderly, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Settlement Home for Children; and

WHEREAS, Sharing in the concerns and accomplishments of Betty King are her devoted husband, noted attorney William M. King, her daughter Kevin Ann Marcyes, and her two lively grandsons; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 75th Legislature, hereby commend and applaud the career of dedicated service of Secretary of the Senate Betty King; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mrs. King as an expression of great admiration and esteem of the Texas Senate.

TRUAN	LUNA
ARMBRISTER	MADLA
BARRIENTOS	MONCRIEF
BIVINS	NELSON
BROWN	NIXON
CAIN	PATTERSON
CARONA	RATLIFF
DUNCAN	SHAPIRO
ELLIS	SHAPLEIGH
FRASER	SIBLEY
GALLEGOS	WENTWORTH
GALLOWAY	WEST
HARRIS	WHITMIRE
HAYWOOD	ZAFFIRINI
LINDSAY	BULLOCK
LUCIO	

The resolution was read.

(Senator Wentworth in Chair)

On motion of Senator Brown and by unanimous consent, the names of the Lieutenant Governor and Senators were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

On motion of Senator Truan, the resolution was adopted by a viva voce vote.

REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

On motion of Senator Truan and by unanimous consent, the remarks regarding **SR 8** were ordered reduced to writing and printed in the *Senate Journal* as follows:

Senator Truan: Members, in my years here we have recognized a lot of individuals. This resolution that is Co-sponsored by all of you, all of us, recognizes the Secretary of the Senate. She is our secretary and she is also celebrating a great number of years, that she may not want to sometimes admit publicly, but she has been associated with us now going on 50 years with state government, and she has been the Secretary of the Senate since 1977, and she has been a very loyal state employee. As you will know and get to know, new Members, we depend a great deal on Betty King for the business of the Senate. She has been a very loyal and dedicated state employee. She exemplifies, as you know best, Senator Barrientos, having the district with the largest state employees, she exemplifies the best that we have as state employees, without a doubt, Members, and without any distinction of Members between party and political philosophy or whatever. She is a very dedicated individual. I recommend to you who do not know her well yet that you counsel with her in any and every thing that you have relating to your role as a Member of the

State Senate. She has distinguished herself also among the Secretaries of the Senates across the country. She has been elected to be the chair of the organization under the National Conference of State Legislators. She has received numerous recognitions, and as the resolution that you have Co-sponsored indicates, locally and statewide she is much in demand as a dedicated individual to promote the State of Texas, the State Senate, and organizations that are dear to her. Members, we have an opportunity here today to recognize Betty King, our Secretary of the Senate, and as we recognize her, I know that she would like for us to recognize all the dedicated state employees who have spent years of their lives dedicating their careers to serving the people of Texas. So, I would like to ask adoption of this resolution and ask that at the end that all Members' names be added to the resolution with a motion from one of the Members.

Senator Nelson: Thank you. Mr. Dean, I know you were listening yesterday when many accolades were given to our new President Pro Tempore regarding her hardworking efforts not only as a female, but as a Member of this Senate, and I would just like to state that when we were giving her her accolades, we were speaking of Members of the Senate. There is an almost-Member of the Senate that has worked diligently for this body. We are most appreciative of her efforts and I am sure she began when she was about 2 years old according to the information that was given to us. I certainly want to add my name to the list of gratitude.

Senator Zaffirini: Mr. President, Members, and Senator Truan, thank you for sponsoring this resolution. It is my pleasure and privilege to join you as a Co-sponsor because we are paying tribute to a great woman who has done an outstanding job. What can we say about Betty King? Very simply, she is a class act. She performs all of her duties with the greatest of dignity, with the greatest of grace, always reflecting intelligence, persistence, and good old-fashioned hard work. She is always such a wonderful person to work with and the only time we have seen her the slightest bit ruffled is when we are paying tribute to her. That is the only time. Earlier today we talked about equality for all on the basis of gender, on the basis of ethnicity, of race, but Betty King does not discriminate against Members of this body on the basis of seniority. For that I am sure especially the freshman Senators are grateful. Betty, you are a great woman and we all love you. Thank you so much.

Senator Brown: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator, I don't know if you know this but when I came to the Senate in 1981, I asked one of the veteran Senators around here for help in letting me know what I should do to learn about the Texas Senate and I said, "What is the first thing I ought to do?" He said, "Well, you ought to go talk to Betty King," and I said, "Well, what I am really looking for is like a resource that tells me about everything that happens, what goes on, the history, the ins and outs, the unwritten rules, everything that goes on." He said, "Go see Betty King." And I did that. I think each Member that has come to the Senate has done that, because they recognize from past experience just how important she is to the day-to-day workings of the Senate. I will never forget the first thing that she said to me when I came up here as a brand new Senator. She said she wanted me to understand that after I was sworn in, my jokes had never been funnier and I had never been cuter than I would be after I was sworn in as a Senator. The

interesting thing I know, as Senator Zaffirini said, she always looks good. It is amazing to me after a 24-hour filibuster, when we have all been up here, that Betty King is still able to look like the same person that showed up that morning at 7:00. She adds a great deal to us. We sometimes forget just how hard the people up here that make all this work, how hard they work. We get out here for about 30 minutes and do some things, but there are hours and hours and hours of work that goes on and, Betty, we thank you for all that you and your staff have done, and thank you for being such a good friend.

Senator Ratliff: Thank you, Mr. President. I have often heard it said that Betty King plays no favorites, but I have to tell you that is not true. If you are a Member of this body, you are one of Betty King's favorites. I cannot imagine service in this body with anybody else as the Secretary of the Senate, nor do I want to imagine such an event. She adds a grace but, on top of that, the management ability few people can even imagine, so far as the number of functions that are managed out of the Secretary of the Senate's office. For those of you that are new, you really ought to get acquainted with all that happens there because you will be astounded, and the reason you will be so astounded is because it works so smoothly. Those are the things that we don't have to worry about. Betty, 50 more years. Thank you, Mr. President.

Senator Harris: Mr. President, Dean. As Chairman of the Administration Committee last session and this session, I have had the opportunity probably to work with Betty as close or closer than any other Member of this body. To the rest of you I say that so much of the dignity that is here within the Senate goes back to Betty King and the demeanor that she sets for herself and for her staff. A word I very rarely use is love, and I genuinely believe that Betty King loves all of us that are her 31 or 30 wards, however many it happens to be at a given moment. I can tell all of you, she is so protective of every one of us and works so hard to make sure that we are the best that we can be. There is no way in my mind we can ever say enough about Betty, to compensate for what she has done for us. Betty, I would like to thank you.

Senator Moncrief: Mr. President and Members, as Vice-chairman of Administration, I too have been able to work with Betty very closely. But at the same time I go back to my arrival at this body and to my advice by the sage Members who I sought to ask what direction to take when I began the onerous task of trying to find a staff, and the advice that I received was, "Go see Betty," and that is exactly what I did. I credit Betty King for my being able to have Gina Martin as my chief of staff and it is through that direction that I am able to bring what I consider to be quality products to this floor. Betty is much more than just Secretary of the Senate. She is a dear friend. Her institutional knowledge is second-to-none and her dedication to not only this body but the quality of what we do for the people of this state is unquestionable. Betty, thank you from me personally, from all of us collectively, for everything you do every day. God bless.

Senator Lucio: I too rise, Dean, to join with you and everyone in this chamber in the recognition of this great lady. When you asked me this morning to sign the resolution, I very briefly reminisced the last ten years, quite frankly, and thought about all the resolutions, Betty, that I had signed my name to. None, I think, gave me a greater joy because that is exactly what

it has been, it's been a great joy, to know you these last ten years as a legislator, but especially the six in the Senate. I think I speak on behalf of my staff and others that have worked closely with you that you are, quite frankly, the greatest source of information in state government today. I appreciate the fact that you have given us direction many times and, may I say the right direction, and the support that you have given us as well. I join Dean Truan today, Lieutenant Governor Bullock, all the Senators and legislators, and those not present here today who have had an opportunity to work with you and to cherish what you have been able to do for them. I thank you on their behalf and I think Senator Ratliff said it best. I think you make me feel like I am the special one, and you have made 31 of us at all times feel that we are very special, and for that we thank you. Thank you very much.

Senator Barrientos: Mr. President, Members, and Senator Truan, allow me to join my voice with yours in a few, brief, kind words of a fantastic woman. Members who have just come today or yesterday to be sworn in, I predict that you will remember, as I, these great halls of the Capitol of the State of Texas, these hallowed halls, these carpets, this gallery, our constituents, the people of Texas. You will remember Lieutenant Governors, Governors, colleagues and Senators, Representatives, but you will especially remember a beloved woman, our Secretary of the Senate. I think Senator Harris put it in an excellent manner when he talked about love and what we feel. Betty King, we hold you above all others. God bless you.

Senator Armbrister: Thank you, Mr. President. I too rise to second the adoption of this resolution. Betty, I am going to violate one of the Senate Rules just a moment, and for the press you always ask us what happens in caucus. I guess to sum up the feelings that we all have, yesterday we were discussing some of the proposed rules that we adopted. One of them had to do with outside employment by Senate employees. We were trying to get an idea about what it was we were talking about with this rule, and Senator Barrientos proposed a hypothetical situation and you were the one that was kind of picked, simply because you had entered the room momentarily to drop some papers off, and Senator Barrientos said, "Well, you know for instance, if Betty King was writing a book, you know it would be important, you know her employer would be interested in that." I made the statement, "Well, I certainly would be interested if Betty King was, in fact, writing a book." All of us voted unanimously that we would be concerned about that. The fact of the matter is you have participated in writing a book, in fact several volumes on the history of the Senate, just one of your many, many talents. We have used the words this morning of friend, dedication to duty, and administrator, but you are family. There is no doubt about it. You will always be, as you have in your time on task. Whether it is an extended family or direct family, I do not know. Some of us feel like probably we ought to claim you on the income tax, and we realized, well, you have probably claimed us on it because you have got us through most of the thick and thin. But, Betty, many people have the title of First Lady by virtue of position or election of office, but to paraphrase what old Bum Phillips used to say, when they asked him if Earl Campbell was the best running back in the country, he said he did not know if he was but it would take an awful short time to call the roll. Well, it would

take an awful short time to call that roll when people talk about great ladies of the State of Texas. You truly are and we love you dearly. Thank you.

Senator Ellis: President and Members, I too rise to sing the praises of Betty King. I met her 22 years ago and I will never forget. They had this old carpet in here then. I think it was blue and I am not sure, obviously I was not a Member. I was working for the Lieutenant Governor and it was late one night and I brought my cup of coffee out to help me stay awake to try and do my work. Mrs. King pulled me to the side and said, "You can't bring that coffee cup out here on the floor," and so I looked around and I saw other people had coffee cups out here and I said, "Well, some of these other people have coffee cups, Mrs. King." She said, "Well, they are Members." So, I sort of shouted back, "I do not think they are drinking coffee." So, she pulled me in her office and gave me a little lecture, and every time I come out here with a coffee cup now, Mrs. King, I appreciate you sort of rolling your eyes at me and I am going to stop doing it. Thank you very much.

Senator Whitmire: Mr. President, Members, I rise to support this resolution. I was sitting here thinking, you know I have been looking for a good example as someone that would be the poster child against term limitation and I am sitting here listening. You all are making the best damn arguments I have ever heard against term limitation, because Betty King has continued to get better and better based on her experience and her desire to do her job. So, Betty, when we get around to term limitations in a few months, I am going to say, "Now, wait a minute, what if we had term limitations on some of our staff? We would be in a fix." The neat thing about Betty is she is your friend during the good times and the bad times. When you are riding high around here and you can't do anything wrong, she is your friend. When you are in the ditch, she is your friend also and that is the neat thing about it. I had the opportunity a couple of years ago when Governor Hobby was leaving, and I think it is the ultimate compliment when you have done such a fine job. Governor Hobby used to always make us get in the back room and not come out until all the parties had worked out a reasonable compromise. That last night of his service I said, for years to come when we are stalled out around here, somebody is going to say, "Go do it the Hobby way," and we will know exactly what they are talking about: go get the job done and be fair and come out with a product. I think we have another category, another phrase, another labeling, and it is going to be, "Go do it the Betty King way," and we will all know what we are talking about: do it right, do it quick, do it proper, and I just think that is the ultimate compliment. I think very few people—some of us have been around here a long time—there are just not many people that you have served with or worked with that you can just mention their name and you know what the bottom line is. Betty, for years to come—and your best years are yet to come, because you are so committed to the success of this body—we are going to be able to say, "Do it the way Betty would do it." Do it the Betty King way. It is great to have that kind of positive name identity and to be of that kind of service.

I will close by saying, Monday when I left Houston at 1:30 p.m. and we were in constant touch with my staff up here and the D.P.S., I headed out with

my wife and daughters and we were told it was risky. In fact, Gene Green decided to go Highway 290, but I told him the D.P.S. said that the Brazos River bridge was closed. But, you know, he's in Congress and he was going to push his luck anyway, but I headed this way. I did not call my good friend Buster Brown to say, "Buster, now if I am not up there about 5:30 or 6:00, start worrying about me," and I did not call you, Rodney, to say be on the lookout for me. I did what all sensible State Senators would do. If you need to make sure that the job gets done and done right, and in that instance I was worried sincerely about traveling to Austin Monday afternoon, I called Betty King. Betty said, "What is your license plate number?" And she said, "We will be monitoring you and if you are not up here by dark, you can rest assured that we will not start without you, and we will come back and be looking out for you." So, that is the kind of security blanket and the commitment Betty King provides us. I just want to publicly thank you because, literally, we do love you, Betty, in the truest sense of the word.

Senator Shapiro: Thank you, Mr. President. I too am very pleased to be able to rise to honor Betty King. As I sit here and listen to everyone and their eloquent words, I guess I keep thinking, can I find a phrase, one particular phrase, and I do not think there is one particular phrase. I think of the Rock of Gibraltar, I think of grace under pressure, I think of so many phrases that describe you and the things that you mean to all of us and, I guess, having been on the Administration Committee for two sessions and watched you, one of the phrases that comes to my mind, I believe is very apropos, is "Walk softly, but carry a very big stick." And, I believe that you have done all of these things. You have shared all of your knowledge with each and every one of us and I think what we are all trying to say here this morning, or maybe almost this afternoon, is thank you for all that you have done, thank you for all that you are doing, and especially thank you for all that you will continue to do for each of us and for the great State of Texas. Thank you.

Senator Luna: Thank you. I want to join my colleagues in praising and commending Betty. But there is another layer of people that are equally appreciative and they don't have access to the mike like we do and that is our staff and our employees. They are never perplexed, and if they are perplexed, they call Betty and that, besides the help she gives us, assures that this chamber is always progressing, never battling, because we have incredibly sound leadership and advice. I also want to mention that I have had an opportunity to dine with her on some of the trips my wife and I have gone on, and had an opportunity to visit with her socially. It is something that, when I leave this office, I will always cherish and remember. You are our star. May it be another 50 years. Thank you.

Senator West: Thank you, Mr. President. I too rise, Betty, to say thank you very much. I know when I took the oath of office, new Members, four years ago, my predecessor told me that if you ever have a question, ask Betty King. She will give you an answer. If it is something in the gray area, ask Betty King because she knows, and I am not talking about age, Betty, don't get me wrong. She has an institutional memory as to exactly which practices are, in fact, tolerated or you should follow in the State Senate. You know, when my grandfather was alive he used to always tell me, in giving me advice, that you

can take it to the bank and use it as collateral. I say to the new Members that have joined us that, if Betty King tells you something in terms of a practice or a procedure that you should follow, you can take it to the bank and use it as collateral. Thank you, Betty.

Senator Patterson: Thank you, Mr. President and Members. I would like to add just one brief analogy as I listen to all of your laudatory comments and references to the Rock of Gibraltar. Another analogy comes to mind, and it is similar to Senator Bivins' yesterday when we thought he might be straying off the path of good judgment, when he was talking about large bovine animals in reference to our President Pro Tempore, and lead cow, and lead steer. What comes to mind, and I kept singing this little ditty in my mind, and it has to do with a Chevy truck. You have watched television, you have seen the ads "like a rock." Well, everytime I think of Betty King I think of a Chevy pickup because of that ad, that ditty "like a rock," because she truly is a rock in the Texas Senate and you do us all well. Thank you very much, Betty.

Senator Haywood: Thank you, Mr. President. This slow-speaking Senator would like to rise to second this motion. Betty, you will recall last year, my first time here, when I was carrying my first bill and someone in good humor was jumping on me. You will recall what I said. I said, "Betty, help me out." That was my call to you and so I do want to make it clear, Betty, that I too love you very much. Thank you.

CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS

SR 6 - by Madla: Congratulating the Iraan High School Braves football team.

SR 7 - by West: Commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Senator Truan, the Senate at 12:13 p.m. adjourned, in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee reports were received by the Senate:

January 15, 1997

ADMINISTRATION — **SB 195**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE — **SB 97**

**In Memory
of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Senator Ellis offered the following resolution:

(Senate Resolution 5)

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes great pride in recognizing the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was born January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, One of the most influential men of the 20th century, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., contributed in countless ways to the enrichment of our country, and it is appropriate that our state and nation continue to pay tribute to his life and work; and

WHEREAS, A 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr. King was a great orator who inspired millions to join his commitment to nonviolence and his struggle for equal rights; and

WHEREAS, From 1956 until his assassination in 1968, Dr. King was an outspoken critic of racial injustice, and he inspired a generation to strive for improved civil rights, equal educational opportunity, and economic well-being for all; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King's historic "I Have a Dream" speech, which he delivered in 1963, is considered an oratorical masterpiece and exemplifies his charismatic leadership and eloquence; and

WHEREAS, A man of uncommon vision and determination, Dr. King dedicated his life to the betterment of his country and to mobilizing disadvantaged people of all races to work together toward achieving economic and social parity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 75th Legislature, hereby join citizens across the nation in paying tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in his memory.

ELLIS
WEST
TRUAN

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Truan and by unanimous consent, the names of the Lieutenant Governor and Senators were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

On motion of Senator Ellis and by unanimous consent, the resolution was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

